

two walls positioned so as to sandwich said plasma generation region between them, in the direction of the center axis of said discharge electrode, for defining the scope of said plasma generation region in the direction of the center axis,

wherein said magnetic force line generator is fashioned so as to generate, as said magnetic force lines that pass through the center of said plasma generation region, magnetic force lines which are shaped so that they do not intersect said two walls.

REMARKS

Claims 16, 22-37 and 41-45 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 24 and 43 are amended.

The above amendments place the application in better condition for initial examination. Prompt consideration and allowance in due course are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:YSC/sdb

Attachment:
Appendix

Date: December 24, 2002

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**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE
AUTHORIZATION**

Please grant any extension
necessary for entry;
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APPENDIX

Changes to Claims:

The following is a marked-up version of the amended claims:

24. (Twice Amended) A plasma generation apparatus according to claim 22.

wherein

said first magnetic force line generating portion is fashioned so as to output said magnetic force lines in said plasma generation region;

said second magnetic force line generating portion is fashioned so as to be input said magnetic force lines been output in said plasma generation region by said first magnetic force line generating portion.

43. (Amended) A plasma generation apparatus according to claim 37, further comprising:

two walls positioned so as to sandwich said plasma generation region between them, in the direction of the center axis of said discharge electrode, for defining the scope of said plasma generation region in the direction of the center axis,

wherein said magnetic force line generator is fashioned so as to generate, as said magnetic force lines that pass through the center of said plasma generation region, magnetic force lines which are shaped so that they do not intersect said two walls.